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CLASSIFICATION SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [redacted]

CD NO.

COUNTRY	East Germany	DATE DISTR.	5 April 1954
SUBJECT	Result of Coal and Coke Shortages in Heavy Industry Plants	NO. OF PAGES	1
PLACE ACQUIRED	[redacted]	NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)	
DATE OF INFO.		SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.	

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By the first week in February 1954, the shortage of coal and coke in East Germany had become so serious that it was found necessary to close down either completely or in part some of the factories under the East German Ministry for Heavy Industry. Walzwerk Burg, for example, was closed down for the first three days of February because no gas was available. At Walzwerk Riesa, several rolling mills had to cease operations because of the shortages of gas, electricity, and water. In order to overcome the shortage of water, a dam was built across the Riesa[1] by the Volkspolizei. Production at the entire plant was seriously hampered. In Thale, two rolling mills had been temporarily closed down as of 3 February, and the Rackwitz plant was closed down completely. In almost all the plants under the Ministry, electricity had been cut by 50 percent. According to rough preliminary estimates, losses caused by the coal and coke shortages will amount to about 15,000,000 DME.

1. [redacted] Comment: Sic.

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